

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISLAMA 07213 311009Z

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ACTION NEA-12

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R 310640Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 786

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 7213

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FOR CONSTABLE NEA/PAB

1. AGREE THAT EXCELLENT SET OF BRIEFING PAPERS ON
POLITICAL TOPICS PREPARED FOR BHUTTO VISIT IN JULY
BASICALLY REQUIRES UPDATING RATHER THAN MAJOR RECASTING
TO SERVE FOR RESCHEDULED SEPTEMBER VISIT. UPDATING
NEEDS TAKE ACCOUNT OF SOME IMPORTANT POST-JULY DEVELOP-
MENTS, HOWEVER. FOLLOWING CHECKLIST MAY BE OF USE TO
YOU. WE BELIEVE YOU HAVE ADEQUATE DETAILS FROM OUR
DAY-TO-DAY REPORTING. LET ME KNOW IF MORE WANTED ON
ANY GIVEN SUBJECT.

(A) INDO-PAKISTAN AGREEMENT OF AUGUST 28
WILL CALL FOR REVISION OF TALKING POINTS PAPER AS WELL
AS BACKGROUND MATERIAL. ONLY SUGGESTION WE WOULD LIKE
TO MAKE IN THIS REGARD IS THAT NOTE OF CAUTION MIGHT
BE INJECTED INTO LATTER. WHILE AUGUST 28 AGREEMENT
IS MAJOR POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT, HISTORY OF SUBCONTINENTAL
RELATIONS SUGGESTS ITS IMPLEMENTATION MAY REPEAT MAY
BE ACCOMPANIED BY USUAL QUOTA OF HITCHES AND DELAYS.
WE RECALL IT TOOK SIX MONTHS AFTER SIMLA TO COMPLETE
TROOP WITHDRAWALS ALTHOUGH AGREEMENT HAD SPECIFIED ONE
MONTH FOR WITHDRAWALS.

(B) TRANSFER OF DISPLACED BENGALIS AND
BIHARIS AS SPECIFIED IN AUGUST 28 AGREEMENT WILL INVOLVE
PERHAPS QUARTER MILLION PEOPLE AND WILL BE COMPLEX,
COSTLY OPERATION. AGREEMENT TEXT SPECIFIES THAT
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PRINCIPALS WILL SEEK OUTSIDE FINANCIAL AND LOGISTIC

ASSISTANCE FOR OPERATION. WE SHOULD BE PREPARED RESPOND TO POSSIBLE PAK REQUEST IN THIS AREA. (SEPTTEL THIS SUBJECT.)

(C) PAK-AFGHAN RELATIONS HAVE COME TO FORE AS RESULT DAUD'S COUP. UPDATING OF PAPERS MIGHT INCLUDE REFERENCE TO AFGHANISTAN PROBLEM BOTH DIRECTLY AND IN CONTEXT PAK PERCEPTION SOVIET THREAT, WITH WHICH PAKS ARE INCLINED TO ASSOCIATE DAUD COUP.

(D) BHUTTO'S VIEWS ON SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PAKISTAN'S MILITARY SUPPLY REQUIREMENTS WILL BE AFFECTED TO SOME EXTENT BY AFGHAN COUP (WHICH WILL ADD TO PAKISTAN'S SECURITY PROBLEMS), BY AUGUST 28 AGREEMENT WITH INDIA (WHICH SHOULD REDUCE, AT LEAST marginally, MAGNITUDE OF PERCEIVED SECURITY THREAT FROM THE EAST) AND BY CURRENT DEVASTATING FLOODS (WHICH WILL PUT SERIOUS ADDED PRESSURE ON PAKISTAN'S CAPACITY TO PURCHASE MILITARY EQUIPMENT OVERSEAS). ALSO REFER TO COMMENTS ON MILITARY SUBJECTS IN MY LETTER AUGUST 7.

2. ON DOMESTIC POLITICAL SITUATION WE ARE PREPARING BRIEF UPDATED INTERNAL POLITICAL ASSESSMENT TAKING ACCOUNT OF CHANGES SINCE JULY, WHICH WE HOPE TO GET TO YOU BY WEEKEND.

3. SPEARATE MESSAGE WILL DEAL WITH BRIEFING PAPERS ON ECONOMIC TOPICS.
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